

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q85314

Makoto HIRAI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/521,573

Group Art Unit: 3634

Confirmation No.: 4018

Examiner: Jerry E. Redman

Filed: January 18, 2005

For: DRIVING APPARATUS AND DOOR CLOSER

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

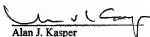
filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE  
23373  
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Date: February 15, 2007

Substitute for Form 1449 A & R/PTO  <b><u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u></b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/521,573
				Confirmation Number	4018
				Filing Date	January 18, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Makoto HIRAI
				Art Unit	3634
				Examiner Name	Jerry E. Redman
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q85314

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code* (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>4</sup>
		Country Code <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>3</sup>	Kind Code <sup>3</sup> (if known)			
		DE	196 17 979	A1	11-13-1997	Gerny Sicherheitstechnik GmbH	No
		DE	199 55 883	A1	05-31-2001	Kiekert AG	No

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume/issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>4</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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